

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A combination of a polymeric bag and a trash can, comprising:
the trash can; and
the polymeric bag for insertion into the trash can, the polymeric bag comprising:
a first panel and a second panel joined to each other along a pair of opposing sides
and a bottom bridging the opposing sides creating an open top, the first
and second panels each having an original width; and
at least a first narrowing seal extending inwardly and downwardly from near or at
one of the pair of opposing sides, the first narrowing seal sealing the first
panel to the second panel such that a second width of the first and second
panels is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first and
second panels.

2. (Previously Presented) The polymeric bag of claim 1, further comprising a second
narrowing seal extending inwardly from near or at the other of the pair of opposing sides.

3. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first narrowing seal further extends toward
the bottom in a direction generally parallel to the pair of opposing sides.

Cont
B1

4. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first narrowing seal further extends toward the bottom, such that the second width becomes smaller toward the bottom.

5. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 4, wherein the second width is about 21 inches and gradually decreases to about 20 inches toward the bottom edges.

6. (Previously Presented) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first narrowing seal initially extends from near or at the pair of opposing sides and extends generally downward, before extending back to near or at one of the pair of opposing sides.

7. (Original) The bag of claim 6, wherein the first narrowing seal is arcuate or triangular in shape.

8. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first narrowing seal is formed by heat sealing the first and second panels.

9. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first narrowing seal is formed by adhering the first and second panels.

10. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first and second panels are formed from an integral folded single sheet of polymer.

Cont
B1

11. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the bottom of the bag is formed by folding the first and second panels.

12. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein one of the pair of opposing sides of the bag is formed by folding the first and second panels.

13. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first and second panels are formed from two separate polymeric sheets.

14. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the first width is about 24 inches.

15. (Original) The bag of claim 1, wherein the second width is about 21 inches.

16. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a polymeric film bag, comprising:
providing a polymeric sheet having a length and an original width;
folding the sheet to form a first and second panel with a straight folded bottom;
joining the first and second panels to create an open top;
sealing the first and second panels to create side seals; and
forming a first narrowing seal extending inwardly and downwardly from near or at one of
the side seals, the first narrowing seal disposed such that a second width of the
first and second panels is created that is smaller than the original width of the
polymeric sheet.

Cont
B1

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising forming a second narrowing seal extending inwardly from near or at the other of the side seals.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the first and second narrowing seals begin a distance from the top and extend toward the bottom.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the first and second narrowing seals extend generally parallel to the side seals.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the distance between the first and second narrowing seals becomes smaller towards the bottom.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein forming the first and second narrowing seals includes forming the first and second narrowing seals at the side seals, extending the narrowing seals inwardly from the side seals, and extending the narrowing seals back to the side seals.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the narrowing seals are generally arcuate or triangular in shape.

Cont

B1

23. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a polymeric bag, comprising:
providing first and second polymeric panels, each having a length and an original width;
sealing the first and second panels along the respective lengths and along a bottom of the
first and second panels, so as to form a closed bottom, closed sides, and an open
top; and
forming a first narrowing seal extending inwardly and downwardly from near or at one of
the sides, the first narrowing seal disposed such that a second width of the first
and second panels is created that is smaller than the original width of the first and
second polymeric panels.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, further comprising forming a second narrowing
seal extending inwardly from near or at the other of the sides.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the first and second narrowing seals begin
a distance from the top and extend toward the bottom.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the first and second narrowing seals
extend generally parallel to the sides.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the distance between the first and second
narrowing seals becomes smaller towards the bottom.

Conf
B1

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein forming the first and second narrowing seals includes forming the first and second narrowing seals at the sides, extending the narrowing seals inwardly from the sides, and extending the narrowing seals back to the sides.

29. (Withdrawn) A polymeric film bag, comprising:

a first layer and a second layer each having an original width and a length, the first and second layer joined by a pair of opposing bag sides and a straight bottom;

a first narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer; and

a second narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer, the first and second narrowing seals disposed such that a second width of the first and second layers is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first and second layers, the first and second narrowing seals extending inwardly from near or at the side edges and extending down toward the straight bottom, such that the second width becomes smaller towards the straight bottom.

30. (Currently Amended) A polymeric bag and a container in combination, comprising:

the container having a fixed frame and a bag engaging periphery;

the bag comprising:

a first layer and a second layer each having an original width and a length, the first and second layer joined by a pair of opposing bag sides and a bottom bridging the opposing bag sides, creating an open top;

a first narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer; and

a second narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer, the first and second narrowing seals disposed such that a second width of the first and second layers is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first and second layers, the first and second narrowing seals initially extending from said bag sides and extending generally downwardly before extending back to said bag sides.

Cont
B1

31. (Currently Amended) A polymeric bag and container in combination, comprising:
said container having a fixed shape frame and a bag engaging periphery; and
said bag comprising:

a first panel and a second panel joined to each other along a pair of opposing sides and a bottom bridging the opposing sides, creating an open top, the first and second panels each having an original width; and
at least a first narrowing seal extending inwardly and downwardly from near or at one of the pair of opposing sides, the first narrowing seal sealing the first panel to the second panel such that a second width of the first and second panels is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first and second panels.

32. (Previously Presented) The polymeric bag of claim 31, further comprising a second narrowing seal extending inwardly from near or at the other of the pair of opposing sides.

Cont
B1

33. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first narrowing seal further extends toward the bottom in a direction generally parallel to the pair of opposing sides.

34. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first narrowing seal further extends toward the bottom, such that the second width becomes smaller toward the bottom.

35. (Withdrawn) The bag of claim 34, wherein the second width is about 21 inches and gradually decreases to about 20 inches toward the bottom edges.

36. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first narrowing seal initially extends from the pair of opposing sides and extends generally downward, before extending back to one of the pair of opposing sides.

37. (Original) The bag of claim 36, wherein the first narrowing seal is arcuate or triangular in shape.

38. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first narrowing seal is formed by heat sealing the first and second panels.

39. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first narrowing seal is formed by adhering the first and second panels.

Cont
40. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first and second panels are formed from an integral folded single sheet of polymer.

B1

41. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the bottom of the bag is formed by folding the first and second panels.

42. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein one of the pair of opposing sides of the bag is formed by folding the first and second panels.

43. (Original) The bag of claim 31, wherein the first and second panels are formed from two separate polymeric sheets.

44. (Withdrawn) A polymeric film bag and container in combination, comprising:
said container having a fixed shaped frame and a bag engaging periphery; and
said bag comprising:
a first layer and a second layer each having an original width and a length, the
first and second layer joined by a pair of opposing bag sides and a straight
bottom;
a first narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer; and
a second narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer, the first and
second narrowing seals disposed such that a second width of the first and
second layers is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first
and second layers, the first and second narrowing seals extending inwardly

Cont
B1

from near or at the side edges and extending down toward the straight bottom, such that the second width becomes smaller toward the straight bottom.

45. (Currently Amended) A polymeric bag and container in combination, comprising:
said container having a fixed shape frame and a bag engaging periphery; and
said bag comprising:
a first layer and a second layer each having an original width and a length, the first and second layer joined by a pair of opposing bag sides and a straight bottom, creating an open top;
a first narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer; and
a second narrowing seal sealing the first layer to the second layer, the first and second narrowing seals disposed such that a second width of the first and second layers is created that is smaller than the original widths of the first and second layers, the first and second narrowing seals initially extending from said bag sides and extending generally downwardly before extending back to said bag sides.

46. (Previously Presented) The bag of claim 1, wherein the bottom is a straight bottom.

47. (Cancelled)